

CITY OF DALTON
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION
MINUTES
MAY 20, 2025

The regular meeting for the Public Safety Commission was held today at the Dalton City Hall Council Chambers. Present were Chairman Truman Whitfield, Commissioners Alex Brown via Zoom, Lane Jackson, Mayor Annalee Sams, Fire Chief Matt Daniel, Police Chief Cliff Cason, City Attorney Jonathan Bledsoe, City Administrator Andrew Parker and Assistant City Administrator Todd Pangle. Commissioner Terry Mathis was absent.

AGENDA APPROVAL

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commission approved the agenda as presented.

PERSONNEL MATTERS

Fire Department – Certificate of Recognition USAR Deployment

Fire Chief Matt Daniel recognized Captain Jason Harris and Firefighter Byran Miranda for their outstanding performance during the Georgia Search & Rescue Task Force 6 flood water rescue deployment to central Kentucky on April 2025.

Police Department – 2024 Traffic Safety Officer of the Year

Sergeant David Saylors recognized Officer Ruben Ruiz as the recipient of the 2024 Traffic Officer of the Year Award.

Police Department – April 2025 Employee of the Month

Chief Cliff Cason recognized Detective Ben Ridley as the recipient of the Employee of the Month for April, 2025. Chief Cason stated the selection was based off outstanding work on multiple cases dealing with the apprehension of a suspect in a string of entering autos.

PUBLIC COMMENTARY

Mr. Harry Patel, a local liquor store business owner shared with the Commission his concerns about the many liquor stores in the City of Dalton and asked if the Commission would look into setting a cap on the number of licensed package liquor store licenses. The Commission informed Mr. Patel that they would look into it and work with the appropriate City staff.

MINUTES

The Commissioners were presented written copies of the regular meeting minutes of April 15, 2025. On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the minutes were approved as presented. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ALCOHOL APPLICATION REVIEW

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commission gave a positive recommendation to the following new alcohol application. The Mayor & Council will vote on the application at the next meeting. The vote was unanimous in favor.

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|--------------------|---|
| 1. Business Owner: | The Bargain Barn, Inc. |
| d/b/a: | United Grocery Outlet #9 |
| Applicant: | Salma Cuna |
| Business Address: | 918 Glenwood Ave. |
| License Type: | Package Beer, Package Wine (Retail Store) |
| Disposition: | New |

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|--------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2. Business Owner: | Dejavu Club, LLC |
| d/b/a: | Dejavu |
| Applicant: | Maria Vargas Esquivel |
| Business Address: | 224 N. Hamilton St. |
| License Type: | Pouring Beer, Pouring Liquor (Bar) |
| Disposition: | New |

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime and Crash Statistics for April 2025

Chief Cliff Cason gave a written and oral summary of the Crime and Crash Statistical Reports for the month of April 2025. As noted in the written summary, Chief Cason reported the Year to Date Part I crimes are approximately 28.02% lower, Part II crimes are approximately 18% lower, violent crimes are approximately 12.9% lower, and Property Crimes are approximately 29.6% lower when compared to the past 5-year average. Chief Cason further reported there were 118 non-private property crashes reported for the month, no change from previous month.

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the April Crime and Crash statistic report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Financial Statistics for April 2025

Chief Cliff Cason presented the Financial Report for all divisions within the Dalton Police Department for the month of April 2025. Chief Cason reported the department has expended 28.4% of the budget and is on track for the remainder of FY 2025.

On the motion of Commissioner Jackson, second Mayor Sams, the financial report was approved. The complete report in its entirety is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Monthly Statistical Report – April 2025

Fire Chief Matt Daniel presented the April 2025 Statistical Report to the Commission. Chief Daniel outlined details of the complete report, which included the Incident Report with 329 Total Responses, Incidents by Staff hours, Incidents by Months and Stations, Average Response Time, Average Turnout Time, Average Travel Time, Injury and Property Loss, Training Division Monthly Report, and the Inspection Summary.

On the motion of Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commissioners approved the Statistical Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Monthly Financial Report – April 2025

Fire Chief Matt Daniel presented the Financial Report for the month of April 2025 to the Commission. Chief Daniel stated the department has expended 30% of the budget, and is on track for the remainder of FY 2025.

On the motion Mayor Sams, second Commissioner Jackson, the Commissioners approved the Financial Report for the Fire Department. A copy of the report is a part of these minutes. The vote was unanimous in favor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, on the motion of Commissioner Brown, second Mayor Sams, the meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Truman Whitfield, Chairman

ATTEST:

Alex Brown, Secretary